

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

RONALD BREKKE,

Defendant.

CASE NO. CR10-0328-JCC

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant Ronald Brekke's motion to modify the conditions of his supervised release (Dkt. No. 463). In 2012, the Court sentenced Mr. Brekke to 144 months of imprisonment and three years of supervised release following his conviction for conspiracy and wire fraud. (Dkt. Nos. 462 at 1, 464 at 1.) The Court imposed computer monitoring as a condition of supervised release, which commenced on December 10, 2021. (Dkt. Nos. 320 at 4, 462 at 1.)

Mr. Brekke now asks the Court to "remove all computer monitoring restrictions," but he does not explain how circumstances have changed such that computer monitoring is no longer necessary. (*See* Dkt. No. 463 at 2–7.) He argues computer monitoring will hinder his employment opportunities and ability to access legal materials. (Dkt. No. 463 at 4–5). But the Government provides the assertion of Mr. Brekke's probation officer that Mr. Brekke "is allowed to use his computer for educational, employment, and legal reasons and does not necessarily need to get pre-

1 approval to visit specific sites in advance that relate to these topics.” (Dkt. No. 464 at 5.) And
2 while Mr. Brekke claims “nothing about [his] history and characteristics” suggests that he “would
3 use the internet for wrongdoing,” (Dkt. No. 463 at 5), he used computers heavily to execute the tax
4 fraud conspiracy for which he was convicted, for example, electronically filing fraudulent tax
5 forms, collecting fees from conspiracy participants via online payment platform PayPal, and
6 promoting the conspiracy via e-mail. (Dkt. No. 464 at 2.)

7 For the foregoing reasons, the Court finds that a modification of this condition is not
8 warranted at this time—a mere five months into his supervised release. The Court therefore
9 DENIES Mr. Brekke’s motion (Dkt. No. 463).

10 DATED this 10th day of May 2022.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Coughenour", written over a horizontal line.

John C. Coughenour
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE